(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 31 March 2005 (31.03.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/029145 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7: G01M 11/02, G11C 13/04, G02F 7/00 G02B 6/10.

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/AU2004/001307

(22) International Filing Date:

27 September 2004 (27.09.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

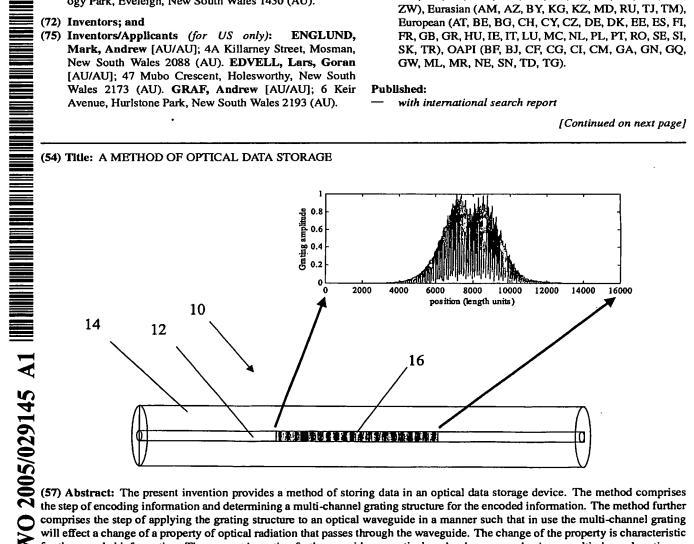
English

(30) Priority Data: 2003905247

25 September 2003 (25.09.2003) ΑU

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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
 - MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,



comprises the step of applying the grating structure to an optical waveguide in a manner such that in use the multi-channel grating will effect a change of a property of optical radiation that passes through the waveguide. The change of the property is characteristic for the encoded information. The present invention further provides an optical read only memory having a multi-channel grating.